

letters herewith submitted that upon the fact becoming known in the county that the subject had been brought to the attention of the grand jury and an indictment found, a large number of the most respectable citizens of the county, many of them living in the immediate section of the county where the accident occurred, together with the mother of the unfortunate youth whose life had been taken by the sad occurrence, the President, Faculty, and almost the entire body of the students of the college, joined in an earnest remonstrance against any further legal proceedings in the matter and recommended in the strongest terms executive clemency in behalf of the accused.

It will also be perceived that the Judge of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, together with the State's Attorney for that county, sometime after the sad occurrence and when all the circumstances were well known and had been fully considered, recommended in decided language that a nolle prosequi be granted. These recommendations accompanied by letters from other gentlemen of great respectability and truth, and personally acquainted with the mild and inoffensive character of the party indicted, stating that the arraignment and trial of Kernan, in the state of mind in which he then was, would probably result in the mental derangement of a youth, in their opinion entirely innocent of any criminal intent, determined me to exercise the power vested in the executive for such cases, and to dismiss all further proceedings.

It is proper that I should also state, that the notice of the application for a nolle prosequi was published as required by the Constitution, in one of the papers published at Westminster, in Carroll county, and that the department has not to this day received any objection or protest, either verbal or written, against granting a nolle prosequi as prayed.

T. WATKINS LIGON.

On motion of Mr. Wickes,

The bill entitled, an act to permit persons to whom free negroes or mulatto apprentices are bound in Worcester county to hire them out, which was rejected on the 26th inst., was reconsidered.

On motion of Mr. Lester,

The House adjourned.

On the day after the death of young Lester, a coroner's inquest was held upon the body of the deceased, and the jury unanimously found that the killing was caused "by the careless and unintentional discharge of a gun loaded with shot which entered and passed through the base of the skull and lodged in the brain." The House will find upon an examination of the petition and